

Economic Outlook and Business Implications

Gene Huang, FedEx September 12, 2006

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Invent the Future



The Fed's summary*:

Economic growth has moderated from its quite strong pace earlier this year, partly reflecting a gradual cooling of the housing market and the lagged effects of increases in interest rates and energy prices.

* Federal Open Market Committee, August 8, 2006





Three near-term themes*:

Slower growth in the U.S. at solid pace
Continued resilience elsewhere in the world
Increased volatility and higher risk premia

* Based on market consensus from economic community





Current macro conditions

Plateau in cumulative strength at the moment... - Mid-

Cycle	2001			2002			2003			2004				2005			2006					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	01	Q2
GDP QOQ	(0.5)	1.2	(1.4)	1.6	2.7	2.2	2.4	0.2	1.2	3.5	7.5	2.7	3.8	4.0	3.1	2.6	3.4	3.3	4.2	1.8	5.6	2.9
GDP YOY	1.9	0.6	0.4	0.2	1.0	1.3	2.2	1.9	1.5	1.8	3.1	3.7	4.3	4.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.7	3.6
Consumption	2.9	2.5	2.0	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.2	1.9	2.0	2.3	3.2	3.4	4.1	3.9	3.5	4.0	3.5	3.8	3.8	2.9	3.4	3.0
Ind Production	(1.0)	(3.5)	(4.5)	(5.3)	(2.9)	(0.2)	1.5	2.3	1.8	(0.6)	(0.1)	1.5	2.6	4.9	4.5	4.3	3.9	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.3	4.5

Recession Rebound and Recovery Mid Cycle

Sources: BEA, Fed. Consumption and IP are in YOY%.





Characteristics of a Mid-Cycle environment:

Growth slowdown toward more sustainable pace

Higher inflation & costs (labor, material, financing)

Still supportive monetary and credit environment

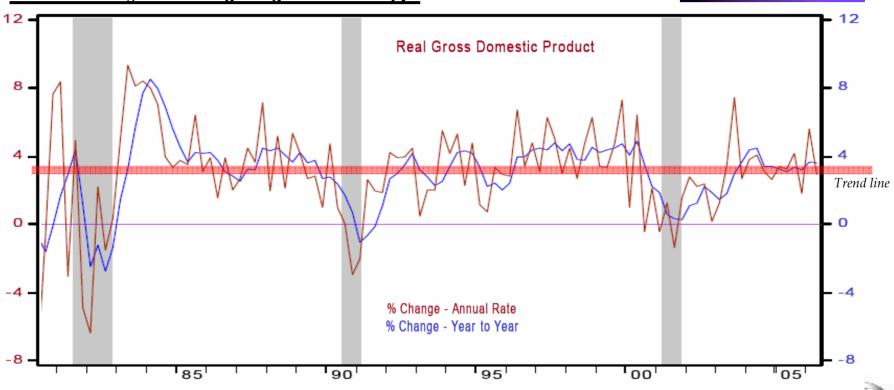
Active M&A activities

Continued tightening in the labor market

Normally a few inventory-adjustment mini cycles



The tricky deal of soft-landing:

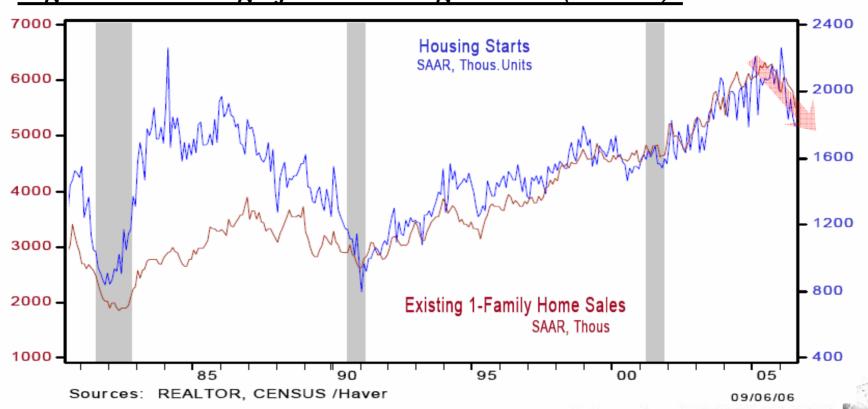


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis / Haver Analytics



The housing market

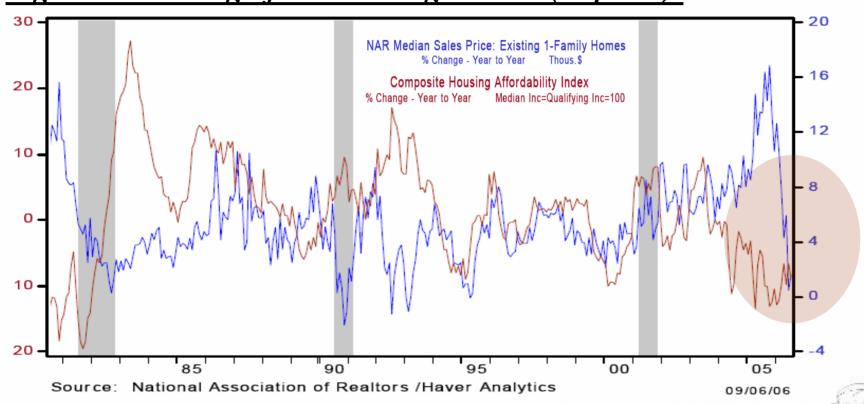
A gradual cooling of the housing market (in unit):





The housing market

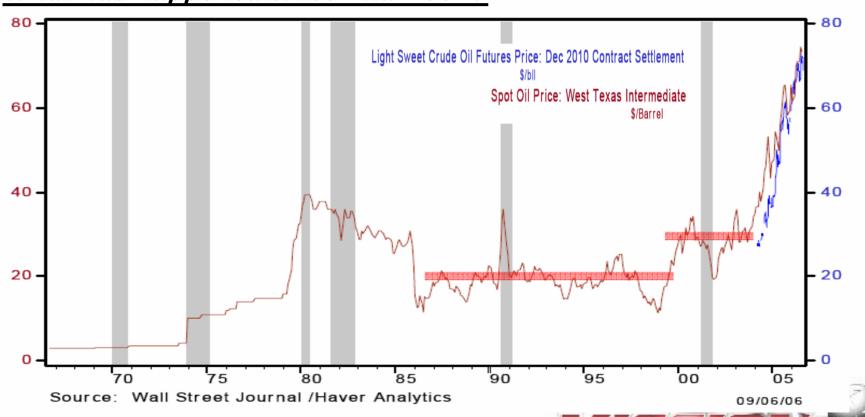
A gradual cooling of the housing market (in price):





The oil market

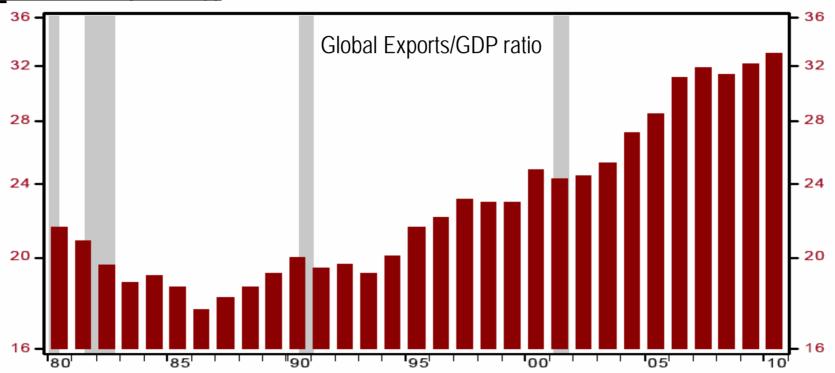
What has happened since mid-2004?







Trade deepening



Source: Economist Intelligence Unit /Haver Analytics



Global macro trend

Global integration



"Perhaps the clearest conclusion is that new technologies that reduce the costs of transportation and communication have been a major factor supporting global economic integration."

"Distance is an elastic concept."

"Substantial productivity gains can often be achieved through the development of global supply chains."

-- Ben Bernanke, August 25, 2006, Jackson Hole, WY



Invent the Future

Global integration

The scale and pace of the current episode is unprecedented.

The traditional distinction between the core and the periphery is becoming increasingly less relevant, as the mature industrial economies and the emerging-market economies become more integrated and interdependent.

Production processes are becoming geographically fragmented to an unprecedented degree.

International capital markets have become substantially more mature.

-- Ben Bernanke, August 25, 2006, Jackson Hole, WY

Three stages of economic development ladder:

Infrastructure and commodities

BRICs

Consumer durables

Developed countries

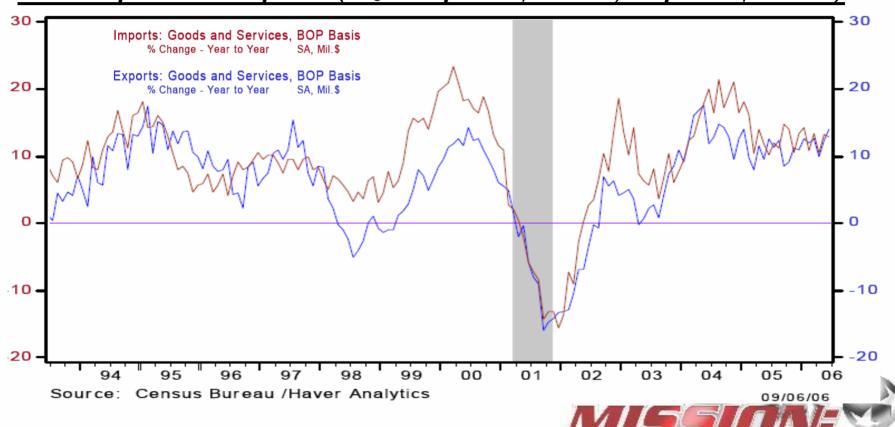
Capital market

Along with economic development, consumption culture will gradually form and strengthen in BRIC countries.



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U.S. Exports & Imports (size: exports \$1.4 tri; imports \$2.2 tri)



Global macro conditions

Dual engines plus more synchronized participation







U.S. Trade Structure

Top 10 Exports by Commodity 2003	Top 10 Trading Partners 2004					
(by share of exports)	(by share of ex	ports)	(by share of imports)			
Semi-conductors, Electronic Tubes, etc.	8.0	Canada	23.0	Canada	17.1	
Office and Computing Machinery	6.7	Mexico	13.6	China	13.7	
Aircraft	5.3	Japan	6.7	Mexico	10.4	
Parts of Motor Vehicles	5.3	United Kingdom	4.4	Japan	8.8	
Professional Equip.	4.8	China	4.3	Germany	5.2	
Motor Vehicles	4.4	Germany	3.8	South Korea	3.2	
Goods not classified by kind	4.3	South Korea	3.2	United Kingdom	3.1	
Machinery and Equip., nec.	3.9	Netherlands	3.0	France	2.2	
Other Manufacturing, nes.	3.8	France	2.6	Malaysia	1.9	
Other Communications Equip.	3.6	Singapore	2.4	Italy	1.9	

Source: The Commerce Department





Tennessee trade structure

Tennessee Trade Structure

Top 10 Exports by Commodity	y 2005	Top 10 Trading Partners 2005					
(by share of exports)		(by share of exports) (by share of import					
Transportation Equipment	22.5	Canada	32.2	Malaysia	44.3		
Computer/Electronic Prdts	14.9	Mexico	9.8	Canada	31.9		
Chemical Manufactures	12.7	China	7.4	China	5.2		
Misc Mfg Commodities	8.6	Japan	4.3	United Kingdom	2.9		
Agricultural Products	8.5	UK	3.9	Mexico	2.7		
Machinery ex Electrical	7.8	Germany	3.6	France	2.6		
Plastics & Rubber Prdcts	3.3	Australia	2.2	Germany	2.1		
Primary Metal Mfg	2.9	South Korea	2.1	Taiwan	1.1		
Paper Products	2.9	Belgium	2.0	Sweden	1.0		
Electrl Eq, Appl & Comp	2.8	Hong Kong	1.7	Ireland	1.0		

Source: The Commerce Department





Employment (NAICS)

Total Non-Agricultural 100 100 Construction & Mining 4.5 5.9 Manufacturing 14.2 10.7 Trade, Trans, & Utilities 21.9 19.4 Information 1.7 2.3 Financial Activities 5.1 6.1 Prof & Business Svcs 11.5 12.6 Educ & Health Services 12.2 13.0 Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0 Government 15.0 16.3			
Construction & Mining 4.5 5.9 Manufacturing 14.2 10.7 Trade, Trans, & Utilities 21.9 19.4 Information 1.7 2.3 Financial Activities 5.1 6.1 Prof & Business Svcs 11.5 12.6 Educ & Health Services 12.2 13.0 Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0		TN	US
Manufacturing 14.2 10.7 Trade, Trans, & Utilities 21.9 19.4 Information 1.7 2.3 Financial Activities 5.1 6.1 Prof & Business Svcs 11.5 12.6 Educ & Health Services 12.2 13.0 Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0	Total Non-Agricultural	100	100
Trade, Trans, & Utilities Information Financial Activities Prof & Business Svcs Educ & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality Other Services 21.9 19.4 1.7 2.3 5.1 6.1 11.5 12.6 12.2 13.0 4.0	Construction & Mining	4.5	5.9
Information 1.7 2.3 Financial Activities 5.1 6.1 Prof & Business Svcs 11.5 12.6 Educ & Health Services 12.2 13.0 Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0	Manufacturing	14.2	10.7
Financial Activities 5.1 6.1 Prof & Business Svcs 11.5 12.6 Educ & Health Services 12.2 13.0 Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0	Trade, Trans, & Utilities	21.9	19.4
Prof & Business Svcs 11.5 12.6 Educ & Health Services 12.2 13.0 Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0	Information	1.7	2.3
Educ & Health Services 12.2 13.0 Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0	Financial Activities	5.1	6.1
Leisure & Hospitality 9.9 9.6 Other Services 3.8 4.0	Prof & Business Svcs	11.5	12.6
Other Services 3.8 4.0	Educ & Health Services	12.2	13.0
	Leisure & Hospitality	9.9	9.6
Government 15.0 16.3	Other Services	3.8	4.0
	Government	15.0	16.3

TN's higher exposure to the goods sector of the economy implies

- (1) Slightly more cyclical than the national economy as a whole
- (2) More impact and potential benefit from global integration





Mission possible:

Economic and business practitioners have been and will continue to be creating models for the world to follow.



